

XM radio should be allowed to broadcast information on local traffic and weather conditions targeted to specific cities or areas. To suggest that XM should be restrained from doing so is absurd. It is called competition, and the only ones who think it is unfair are the ones who have a technological disadvantage, or who may be trying to protect their turf. The companies who made slide rules probably felt the same way about the electronic calculator. This is a classic case of a new and useful product that enters the market and the ones who have controlled the market beforehand try every trick in the book to keep their customers from switching. If XM is not better, the market will decide, and nobody but XM gets hurt. If XM is better, the customer decides and the economy benefits.

Reject NAB's petition 04-160, it is the right thing to do.